

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
73544 Hwy 64
Meeker, CO 81641

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NUMBER: CO-110-2006-064-EA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER (optional): COC69581

PROJECT NAME: 3 Phase 24.9 kV power line to the Bass Compressor Station

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado

T. 1 S., R. 97 W.,
Sec. 6, lot 5, 6, 11, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 7, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 8, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 17, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 18, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 19, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 1 S., R. 98 W.,
Sec. 1, lot 5, 6, 11.

APPLICANT: White River Electric Association, Inc. (WREA)

ISSUES AND CONCERNS (optional): None

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

Background/Introduction: WREA intends to construct, operate and maintain a 3-phase 24.9 (25) kV power line to serve the proposed electrical needs of the Bass Enterprises Production Company's gas processing facility located, T. 1 S., R. 98 W., sec. 1 along Rio Blanco County (RBC) Road #20 (Yellow Creek).

The original proposed right-of-way route closely paralleled RBC road #83 for about 1500 meters and then deviated to the west for an additional 1450 meters (0.9 mile), extending as far as 165 meters from the road edge. This cleared ROW segment would have traversed a broad sagebrush basin and would almost certainly draw subsequent use as a vehicle route and may provide impetus for continued expansion of off-road routes to the west. Because of this it was recommended by the BLM wildlife biologist to pull the portion of the powerline that deviated

from RBC road #83 to follow the county road more closely (refer to attached map). WREA submitted the necessary papers to amend their application to reflect this change.

Proposed Action: The proposed action is for a power line that will begin at WREA's existing pole, recently placed to feed the Enterprise facility (behind the old American Soda plant). The proposed route is on the east side of RBC Road #83 and parallels RBC Road #83 to the north for 8,725 feet before turning to the northwest and paralleling an existing and established jeep trail the remaining 15,747 feet to the Bass Enterprises facility. Total length of the proposed power line is 24,472 feet (4.63 miles) with a total width of 25 feet encompassing 14.05 acres. It will take approximately 88 wooden poles, spaced 280 feet apart to complete this power line. Equipment to be used will be a 2 ton, 4-wheel drive digger/derrick truck 2 ton, 4-wheel drive bucket truck, 4-wheel drive backhoe if needed and basic utility trucks. It is anticipated to take 6 weeks to complete the project. The poles will be electrically safe for birds and animals and mitigated against perching by raptors.

The route follows previously disturbed ground so disturbance to the environment should be kept to a minimum. The route is primarily along existing road right-of-ways, and in the bottoms of the draw where there are few trees to be trimmed or cut. However, to keep to WREA's practice of protecting their power lines against wildland fire, it is intended to brush beat the entire right-of-way, but do not intend to disturb the soil or grasses during this process.

No Action Alternative: Under the no action alternative the application would be denied and the situation would remain the same.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT CARRIED FORWARD:

NEED FOR THE ACTION: WREA proposes to supply power to Bass Enterprises Yellow Creek Compressor Station.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: Pages 2-49 thru 2-52

Decision Language: "To make public lands available for the siting of public and private facilities through the issuance of applicable land use authorizations, in a manner that provides for reasonable protection of other resource values."

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:

STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LAND HEALTH: In January 1997, Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved the Standards for Public Land Health. These standards cover upland soils, riparian systems, plant and animal communities, threatened and endangered species, and water quality. Standards describe conditions needed to sustain public land health and relate to all uses of the public lands. Because a standard exists for these five categories, a finding must be made for each of them in an environmental analysis. These findings are located in specific elements listed below:

CRITICAL ELEMENTS

AIR QUALITY

Affected Environment: The entire White River Resource area has been classified as either attainment or unclassified for all pollutants, and most of the area has been designated prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) class II. The proposed action is not located within a thirty mile radius of any special designation air sheds or non-attainment areas. Overall, the proposed action alone should not greatly compromise National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) on an hourly or daily basis.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed power line route follows previously disturbed areas for much of its length. Surface disturbance will be minimal and adverse impacts to air quality should not be expected.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: None

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment: The proposed power line route has been inventoried at the Class III (100% pedestrian) level (Conner 2006a, 2006b) with no new cultural resources identified in the areas inventoried for the power line right-of-way (ROW).

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed power line route will not impact any known cultural resources.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no new impacts to cultural resources under the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation: 1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and

immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
- a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

2. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Affected Environment: Noxious weeds known to occur in the general area of the project include Canada thistle, bull thistle, spotted knapweed and diffuse knapweed. The invasive annual cheatgrass also occurs in the area, primarily in association with areas of unvegetated soil disturbance adjacent to roads.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action will create about 4 acres of new earthen disturbance, which if it is not revegetated with desirable species and/or treated with herbicides to eradicate noxious weeds/ cheatgrass, will be invaded and dominated by noxious weeds/cheatgrass, increasing the potential for fire and the consequent further proliferation of cheatgrass. Noxious weeds could also spread from the project site to surrounding native rangelands resulting in a long term negative impact. The resulting proliferation of noxious weeds/cheatgrass will perpetuate a downward cycle of environmental degradation that will be largely irreversible. There will be a low likelihood of long term negative impact if the proposed mitigation is properly implemented.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There will be no change from the present situation.

Mitigation: The operator will be required to monitor the project area for a minimum of three years post disturbance and eradicate all noxious and invasive species which occur on site using materials and methods approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Affected Environment: The project corridor intersects about 1.2 miles of primarily early seral (sub-100 year) pinyon-juniper woodlands, 1.2 miles of Wyoming big sagebrush basins and toeslopes that are variously encroached by young pinyon and juniper trees, and about 2.4 miles of basin big sagebrush valleys. These habitats are occupied by an array of breeding migratory birds from mid-May through mid-July. Several of these species have been identified as having higher conservation interest, including: black-throated gray warbler, gray flycatcher, and pinyon jay in the woodlands; Brewer's sparrow and green-tailed towhee in the shrubland types. It is likely that the shrubland types traversed by the proposed ROW generally support full complements of avian communities associated with the various forms of sagebrush. However, as sagebrush becomes increasingly encroached by pinyon and juniper regeneration, these species tend to decline in favor of more generalized species, such as chipping sparrow and blue-gray gnatcatcher. The involved woodland bird communities are likely inhabited by a relatively poor assemblage of pinyon-juniper obligates, due not only to the young and open canopies, but the route's close proximity to established roads.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action is expected to be constructed no earlier than August 2005 and would, therefore, have little influence on the reproductive activities of migratory birds. In the event construction is delayed significantly and occurred synchronous with the breeding season, it is likely that this linear project would disturb relatively few nest attempts. It is estimated that about 15 acres of low quality woodland nest habitat would be subject to disturbance (3 acres directly); likely involving less than 6 pair of more generalized woodland species (e.g., chipping sparrow). Although up to 90 acres of sagebrush habitats could be influenced by proposed construction operations, about 30 acres would be subject to severe disruption attributable to vegetation clearing. Powerline installation proceeds relatively quickly such that any individual nest within 100 feet or so would be disturbed for several hours over a 1 or 2 day period and would not necessarily result in a failure. In this case, it is expected that nest attempts of up to 15 pair of higher conservation interest birds in sagebrush habitats could be adversely affected. This level of impairment is discountable on a landscape scale since Brewer's sparrow and green-tailed towhee are consistently two of the most abundant and widely distributed species in this area's shrubland habitats.

In the event of a summertime construction schedule, the alternate alignment of the powerline ROW would reduce the number of nests disturbed in sagebrush habitat and increase disturbance in woodland habitats. The involved extent of submature woodland habitats adjacent to RBC road #83 would essentially double (<12 pairs of generalized woodland birds), while the influence on Wyoming big sagebrush steppe would be reduced to half that proposed by the applicant (total <12 pairs of sagebrush birds with high conservation interest). Future abandonment of the well access road that may be indirectly attributable to this option would allow for the eventual

reestablishment of about 1 acre of sagebrush steppe habitat and remove road-induced avoidance effects on another 5 acres of nest habitat.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no action authorized that would adversely influence migratory bird reproductive activities.

Mitigation: None.

THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES (includes a finding on Standard 4)

Affected Environment: Field work was conducted by WestWater Engineering to document the presence and/or absence of any special status plants and/or their suitable habitats. The Special Status plants known to occur in the Piceance Basin primarily depend on relatively barren shale habitats of the Green River Formation. Within the project area, the Green River Shale formation is sandwiched between several units of the Uintah formation. The Green River is easily distinguished from the Uintah by its' light gray (almost white) color, finer texture shale fragments and finer textured soil particles. The two most likely special status species (SSS) plants to be encountered at the elevations of the project area are *Lesquerella congesta* (Dudley Bluffs bladderpod) and *Physaria obcordata* (Piceance twinpod), both listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act. In this area, both species are restricted to relatively barren outcrops of the Thirteen Mile Creek Tongue of the Green River formation.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Several known colonies of the Dudley Bluffs bladderpod occur near the proposed power line route. The existing two-track road which would be used to gain access along the route to construct and maintain the power line is at the very northern edge of the colony. Dudley Bluffs bladderpod plants occur within 25 feet of the edge of the road's travel surface. This small colony of plants could be affected by the construction of the power line across the colony and perhaps by use of the two-track road for construction and maintenance activities. Pole placement and stringing wire could destroy Dudley Bluffs bladderpod plants. Off road travel and dust from use of the two-track is a couple of impacts which have the potential to affect this colony.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: An alternate alignment of the route has been marked out on the ground north of the Dudley Bluff's bladderpod colony. This alternative route would avoid this colony by at least 200 feet. It is recommended that this alternative alignment be used for construction of the power line. In addition it is also recommended that 500-600 feet of temporary plastic warning fence be placed along the edge of the road prior to construction activities where it is marked with yellow and blue survey flagging to prevent equipment and vehicle use within the Dudley Bluffs bladderpod colony. Water or gravel could be placed on the road near this colony to reduce dust generation during construction.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for Threatened & Endangered species:
There is no reasonable likelihood that the proposed action or no action alternative would have an influence on the condition or function of Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive plant species. Thus there would be no effect on achieving the land health standard provided that the mitigation is followed.

WASTES, HAZARDOUS OR SOLID

Affected Environment: There are no known hazardous or other solid wastes on the subject lands. No hazardous materials are known to have been used, stored or disposed of at sites included in the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: No listed or extremely hazardous materials in excess of threshold quantities are proposed for use in this project. While commercial preparations of fuels and lubricants proposed for use may contain some hazardous constituents, they would be stored, used and transported in a manner consistent with applicable laws, and the generation of hazardous wastes would not be anticipated. Solid wastes would be properly disposed of.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: No hazardous or other solid wastes would be generated under the no-action alternative.

Mitigation: The applicant shall be required to collect and properly dispose of any solid waste generated by the proposed actions.

WATER QUALITY, SURFACE AND GROUND (includes a finding on Standard 5)

Affected Environment: Surface Water: The proposed power line route is primarily located in the Yellow Creek catchment area which is a tributary to the White River (stream segment 13b of the White River Basin). In addition, the first ~1.7 miles of the proposed route are situated on the drainage divide between Yellow Creek and Piceance Creek. Piceance Creek is a tributary to the White River and is situated in stream segment 15 of the White River Basin. The White River is a tributary to the Green River (tributary to the Colorado River). A review of the Colorado's 1989 Nonpoint Source Assessment Report (plus updates), the 305(b) report, the 303(d) list and the Unified Watershed Assessment was done to see if any water quality concerns have been identified. The State has classified stream segment 13b of the White River Basin as "Use Protected" and further designated as beneficial for the following uses: Warm Aquatic Life 2, Recreation 2, and Agriculture. The antidegradation review requirements in the Antidegradation Rule are not applicable to waters designated use-protected. For those waters, only the protection specified in each reach will apply. For this reach, minimum standards for three parameters have been listed. These parameters are: dissolved oxygen = 5.0 mg/l, pH = 6.5 - 9.0, Fecal Coliform = 2000/100 ml, and 630/100 ml E. coli. It should be noted that Yellow Creek has been identified as a perennial stream not meeting water quality standards with regards to salinity and suspended sediment.

Stream segment 15 of the White River Basin is defined as the mainstem of Piceance Creek from the Emily Oldland diversion dam to the confluence with the White River. Segment 15 has not been designated use-protected. An intermediate level of water quality protection applies to waters that have not been designated outstanding waters or use-protected waters. For these waters, no degradation is allowed unless deemed appropriate following an antidegradation review. The state has classified segment 15 as being beneficial for the following uses: Warm aquatic life 2, Recreation 1b, and Agriculture. It should also be noted that the White River from Piceance Creek to Douglas Creek has been listed on the states monitoring and evaluation list (M&E list) for sediment impairments. All surface disturbing activities associated with the proposed actions will directly influence sedimentation rates to Piceance Creek, White River, and eventually the Colorado River.

Ground Water: Surface geologic formation at the proposed location is Tertiary in age (Uinta Formation) and consists primarily of sandstone and siltstone. The Uinta Formation is the principle geologic formation of the Upper Piceance Basin Aquifer. However, no springs or water wells have been identified within 1 mile of the proposed action.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Surface Water: Soil compaction and vegetation loss may occur in response to equipment operations associated with power-line construction. Increased soil compaction and reductions in vegetation cover will further decrease soil permeability and infiltration rates elevating potential for erosive overland flows which may elevate sedimentation to stream channels.

Ground Water: No impacts to ground water resources are anticipated.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Soil compaction may be mitigated by minimizing the amount of utility vehicle traffic associated with the power line construction and maintenance. To mitigate water being channelized down the ROW, all activity must stop when soils or ROW surfaces become saturated to a depth of three inches. Mud blading will be prohibited in attempts to reduce further soil displacement. In addition, disturbed surfaces should be revegetated as outlined in the vegetation section of this document to minimize erosion.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for water quality: The White River Resource Area RMP has identified Yellow Creek (segment 13b) as NOT meeting water quality standards for suspended sediment and salinity. Upstream activities like the proposed actions will have a direct influence on water quality in the lower reaches. However, if proper mitigation techniques are followed, water quality in stream segments 13b and 15 will not be compromised.

CRITICAL ELEMENTS NOT PRESENT OR NOT AFFECTED:

No ACEC's, flood plains, riparian/aquatic/wetland communities, Wilderness, prime and unique farmlands, special status wildlife, or Wild and Scenic Rivers exist within the area affected by the

proposed action. There are also no Native American religious or environmental justice concerns associated with the proposed action.

NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS

The following elements **must** be addressed due to the involvement of Standards for Public Land Health:

SOILS (includes a finding on Standard 1)

Affected Environment: The following data is a product of an order III soil survey conducted by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Rio Blanco County, CO. The following table (Table 1) highlights important soil characteristics. A complete summary of this information can be found at the White River Field Office. No “fragile soils” have been mapped near the project area.

Table 1:

Soil Number	Soil Name	Slope	Affected acres w/in 20m radius	Ecological site	Salinity	Run Off	Erosion Potential	Bedrock
36	Glendive fine sandy loam	2-4%	20.3	Foothills Swale	2-4	Slow	Slight	>60
64	Piceance fine sandy loam	5-15%	7.24	Rolling Loam	<2	Medium	Moderate to high	20-40
73	Rentsac channery loam	5-50%	40.28	Pinyon-Juniper woodlands	<2	Rapid	Moderate to very high	10-20
91	Torriorthents-Rock Outcrop complex	15-90%	7.4	Stoney Foothills		Rapid	Very high	10-20
104	Yamac Loam	2-15%	21.61	Rolling Loam	<2	Medium	Slight to moderate	>60

36-Glendive fine sandy loam (2 to 4 percent slopes) is a deep, well drained soil found along drainage ways on alluvial valley floors. It formed in alluvium. Elevation is 5,800 to 7,200 feet. The average annual precipitation is 14 to 17 inches, the average annual air temperature is 42 to 45 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 80 to 105 days. Typically, the surface layer is pale brown fine sandy loam 6 inches thick. The underlying material to a depth of 60 inches or more is very pale brown, stratified fine sandy loam that has thin lenses of loamy fine sand to sandy clay loam. The soil is calcareous throughout. In some areas the surface layer is channery fine sandy loam. Permeability of this Glendive soil is moderately rapid. Available water capacity is moderate. Effective rooting depth is 60 inches or more. Runoff is slow, and the hazard of water erosion is slight. The soil is subject to rare periods of flooding.

64-Piceance fine sandy loam (5 to 15 percent slopes) is a moderately deep, well drained soil located on uplands and broad ridge tops. It formed in eolian material and colluvium derived dominantly from sandstone. The native vegetation is mainly low shrubs, grasses, and a few pinyon trees. Elevation is 6,300 to 7,500 feet. The average annual precipitation is 15 to 18

inches, the average annual air temperature is 42 to 45 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 80 to 105 days. Typically, the surface layer is brown fine sandy loam 4 inches thick. The upper 5 inches of the subsoil is brown loam, and the lower 13 inches is light yellowish brown loam. The substratum is very pale brown channery loam 8 inches thick. Hard sandstone is at a depth of 30 inches. Depth to sandstone ranges from 20 to 40 inches. Permeability of this Piceance soil is moderate. Available water capacity is moderately low. Effective rooting depth is 20 to 40 inches. Runoff is slow to medium, and the hazard of water erosion is moderate to high.

73-Rentsac channery loam (5 to 50 percent slopes) is a shallow, well drained soil found on ridges, foothills, and side slopes. It formed in residuum derived dominantly from calcareous sandstone. The native vegetation is mainly pinyon, juniper, brush, and grasses. Elevation is 6,000 to 7,600 feet. The average annual precipitation is 14 to 18 inches, the average annual air temperature is 42 to 45 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 80 to 105 days. Typically, the surface layer is grayish brown channery loam about 5 inches thick. The next layer is very channery loam about 4 inches thick. The underlying material is extremely flaggy light loam 7 inches thick. Hard sandstone is at a depth of 16 inches. Depth to sandstone ranges from 10 to 20 inches. Permeability of this Rentsac soil is moderately rapid. Available water capacity is very low. Effective rooting depth is 10 to 20 inches. Runoff is rapid, and the hazard of water erosion is moderate to very high.

91-Torriorthents-Rock outcrop complex (15 to 90 percent slopes) is found on extremely rough and eroded areas on mountains, hills, ridges, and canyon sides. Slopes mainly face south. The native vegetation is mainly sparse shrubs and grasses with some pinyon and juniper trees. Elevation is 5,100 to 7,500 feet. The average annual precipitation is 8 to 18 inches, the average annual air temperature is 40 to 50 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 70 to 130 days. This unit is 50 percent Torriorthents that have slopes of 15 to 65 percent and 30 percent Rock outcrop that has slopes of 35 to 90 percent. Torriorthents are very shallow to moderately deep and are well drained and somewhat excessively drained. They formed in residuum and colluvium derived dominantly from sandstone, shale, limestone, and siltstone. Torriorthents are highly variable. No single profile of Torriorthents is typical, but one commonly observed in the survey area has a surface layer of pale brown channery loam about 3 inches thick. The underlying material is very pale brown channery loam, very channery loam, or fine sandy loam about 13 inches thick. Shale or sandstone is at a depth of 16 inches. Torriorthents are calcareous throughout. In some areas the surface layer is stony or flaggy. Permeability of the Torriorthents is moderate. Available water capacity is very low. Effective rooting depth is 10 to 20 inches. Runoff is very rapid, and the hazard of water erosion is very high.

104-Yamac loam (2 to 15 percent slopes) is a deep, well drained soil located on rolling uplands, terraces, and fans. It formed in eolian and alluvial material. The native vegetation is mainly low shrubs and grasses. Elevation is 5,800 to 7,100 feet. The average annual precipitation is 13 to 16 inches, the average annual air temperature is 40 to 45 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 80 to 105 days. Typically, the surface layer is brown loam 4 inches thick. The upper 8 inches of the subsoil is brown loam, and the lower 10 inches is highly calcareous loam. The upper 26 inches of the substratum is very pale brown loam, and the lower part to a depth of 60 inches or more is pale brown loam. Permeability of this Yamac soil is moderate. Available

water capacity is moderate to high. Effective rooting depth is 60 inches or more. Runoff is medium, and the hazard of water erosion is slight to moderate.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Given the calcareous nature of the affected soils, dissolution of calcium carbonate may cause soil piping and gully formation if soils are further exposed to erosional processes. Construction of the proposed power-line may result in increased soil compaction which will reduce infiltration and permeability rates increasing the erosive potential of overland flows.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Utility truck traffic should be kept to a minimum to reduce the potential impacts of soil compaction. To further mitigate resource damage, timing of construction operations should be planned to avoid wet periods when soils are saturated (e.g. during spring thaw, after late summer monsoons).

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils: At the present time, soils in the vicinity of the proposed action exhibit infiltration and permeability rates that are appropriate to soil type, landform, climate, and geologic processes. Following power-line construction, soils will continue to meet standards.

VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The proposed action traverses pinyon-juniper woodland, and early seral pinyon-juniper woodlands interspersed with Wyoming big sagebrush parks. Many of the big sagebrush parks are in the midst of a phase 1 invasion process by juniper.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action will create about (5) five acres of new earthen disturbance. The principal impact to vegetation will be partial or complete removal of vegetation along the right of way, and the earthen disturbance associated with it. Brush beating along the entire right of way will provide sufficient disturbance to allow for establishment of cheatgrass and therefore, result in an increase in the potential for fire under the powerline. In terms of plant community composition, structure and function, the principal negative impact over the long term would occur if cheatgrass or noxious weeds are allowed to establish and proliferate on the disturbed areas resulting from powerline construction and the associated brush beating.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There will be no change from the present situation.

Mitigation: All disturbed areas on the entire right of way should be reseeded with Native seed mix #3 to preempt cheatgrass dominance. Promptly revegetate the entire right of way with Native Seed mix #3. Drill seeding is the preferred method of seeding. If seed is broadcast, double the seeding rate and provide for seed coverage by harrowing or dragging after seed application. Table rates are PLS pounds per acre.

Seed Mix #	Species (Variety)	Lbs. PLS per Acre	Ecological Sites
3	Western wheatgrass (Rosanna)	2	Gravelly 10"-14", Pinyon/Juniper Woodland, Stony Foothills, 147 (Mountain Mahogany)
	Bluebunch wheatgrass (Secar)	2	
	Thickspike wheatgrass (Critana)	2	
	Indian ricegrass (Nezpar)	1	
	Fourwing saltbush (Wytana)	1	
	Utah sweetvetch	1	
	<i>Alternates: Needle and thread, globemallow</i>		

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): Upland plant communities in the project area currently meet the Standard and are expected to meet the Standard following project implementation if the stated mitigation measures are adhered to.

WILDLIFE, TERRESTRIAL (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The entire project area is classified by the Colorado Division of Wildlife as critical habitat for deer as severe winter range. These late winter and early spring ranges support 90% of the Piceance herd under the most severe winter conditions. By definition, losses in critical habitat extent or utility reduce the capacity of the Game Management Unit to support former numbers of deer. Ranges encompassing the project area are used from September through May by both deer and elk. Winter forage capacity is measured by the availability of Wyoming big sagebrush and deciduous browse (e.g., bitterbrush). From March through early May, big game diets shift increasingly to emerging herbaceous growth. Road density-related impacts to big game (i.e., elevated energy demands, habitat disuse) received prominent address in the White River RMP. Analysis of the issue resulted in the development of a land use decision which established effective road density objectives of 1.5 miles per square mile on big game critical habitats.

An historic golden eagle nest site along the ROW corridor is presently tended. This nest site is situated about 440 feet from the proposed powerline corridor. This bird flushed from the nest site with a quiet, single person approach at about 250 feet, indicating that the bird is relatively intolerant of disturbance. A Condition of Approval would be attached to this action such that project construction, ROW preparation, or equipment/vehicle access associated with the project would not be allowed within 0.25 mile of this site from March 1 through August 15 or until nestlings fledge from the site.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The alternative right-of-way route would closely parallel the eastern edge of RBC 83 and extend no more than about 40 meters from the road edge. Powerline access and ROW clearing in this position would not be expected to provide any added impetus for off-road vehicle use than currently exists from the county road. Powerline and construction access and right-of-way clearing would isolate 2 narrow woodland/shrubland fragments of 1.3 and 1 acre, which would have no effective influence on the utility of adjacent habitat parcels for big or nongame.

Early seral woodlands along RBC 83 would comprise a greater proportion of this ROW (1.9 miles), with a corresponding decrease in Wyoming big sagebrush habitat (2 acres) as a woody forage base for wintering deer. Involvement of basin big sagebrush communities would be the same as in the Proposed Action. Similar to the Proposed Action, the loss of woody forage is minor and the temporary loss of herbaceous forage would be regained shortly after reclamation (see below).

That portion of the ROW that extends west from RBC 83 would follow and incorporate disturbance associated with a long established fenceline and 2-track. This alignment, by not lending added reason to maintain 300 meters of abandoned well access originating from RBC 83, would keep road and travel management options open. Although not directly attributable to this project, abandonment of this newly developed cutoff would indirectly reduce the frequency of vehicle traffic across 3.2 miles of deer severe winter range. Identical to the proposed action, vehicular use and vegetation clearing along the ROW would expose mineral soil in woodland and basin big sagebrush sites, and would maintain or predispose these sites to increased cheatgrass and annual weed infestations which degrade wildlife forage or ground cover values.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no action authorized that would influence terrestrial wildlife habitat or populations.

Mitigation: Native seed mix #3 will be properly applied to the entire cleared ROW.

The applicant will provide detailed access plans to the Authorized Officer for approval prior to project initiation, particularly in T1S R98W section 1 and T1S R97W sections 6 and 7. Permanent access routes to pole locations in this area should be minimized and discontinuous. Cleared ROW that spans the existing road segments in the NWNE section 7 and SWSE section 6 (T1S R97W) should be barrier fenced after reclamation to dissuade vehicle use not associated with powerline maintenance.

Project construction, ROW preparation, or equipment/vehicle access associated with the project would not be allowed within 0.25 mile of an active golden eagle nest from March 1 through August 15 or until nestlings fledge from the site. This condition would be applied to the following subdivisions: T1S R97W section 6: Lots 5 and 6, NE1/4SW1/4.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Aquatic): The general project area currently meets the Public Land Health Standards for terrestrial wildlife. Installation of the powerline, as proposed, would not compromise continued meeting of the standard, but as mitigated, this project's contribution toward the maintenance of habitat integrity (e.g., reduced indirect behavioral effects) and long term function (e.g., reclamation) would be enhanced.

OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS: For the following elements, only those brought forward for analysis will be addressed further.

Non-Critical Element	NA or Not Present	Applicable or Present, No Impact	Applicable & Present and Brought Forward for Analysis
Access and Transportation			X
Cadastral Survey	X		
Fire Management			X
Forest Management		X	
Geology and Minerals		X	
Hydrology/Water Rights	X		
Law Enforcement		X	
Noise	X		
Paleontology			X
Rangeland Management			X
Realty Authorizations		X	
Recreation			X
Socio-Economics		X	
Visual Resources			X
Wild Horses	X		

ACCESS AND TRANSPORTATION

Affected Environment: The proposed powerline traverses approximately 1.3 miles where motorized travel is limited to existing routes and approximately 3.4 miles where motorized travel is open to cross country travel from May 1 through October 15 of each year and is limited to existing routes the remainder of the year. Rio Blanco County (RBC) road 83 and BLM road 1145 are adjacent to the right-of-way.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Recreational motorized travel will likely traverse all right-of-way that is accessible leading potentially leading to the right-of-way becoming an unintentional travel route. The likelihood increases further if entire right-of-way is brush beat.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None.

Mitigation: Whenever the power line right-of-way crosses BLM 1145 and RBC 83 do not brush beat all the way up to road, instead leave at least 100 feet of brush between BLM 1145/RBC 83 and right-of-way to discourage motorized travel along right-of-way.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

Affected Environment: The proposed action occurs within the B6 Yellow Creek Fire Management Polygon and is an area where wildland fire is not desired. Construction of the powerline adds incrementally to an ever growing amount of industrial interface constructed on public lands within the B6 polygon which BLM fire suppression personnel are responsible to

protect. The proposed action passes through a mix of pinion juniper woodland, sagebrush parks and greasewood/sage bottom lands. The PJ fuel type is the most difficult to provide structure protection and defense in lieu of an approaching wildfire because PJ readily crowns and makes significant runs in a crown sustained wildfire.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed right-of-way route closely parallels RBC 83 for about 1500 meters and then deviates to the west for an additional 1450 meters (0.9 mile), extending as far as 165 meters from the road edge. Placement of the line to the west moves the line away from the already effective and defensible fuel break that county road 83 provides and moves the line upwind and into continuous wildland fuels. The two track along which the right-of-way is proposed provides less defensible space and is not as easy to get fire protection equipment into and does not afford safe access and egress in the event of a wildfire. Placement of the line in continuous fuels will require a greater amount of vegetation clearing to adequately defend the line from damage by wildfire, realistically requiring the operator to go outside the requested 25 r-o-w in continuous PJ stands.

Environmental Consequences of an alternative corridor proposal: The alternative right-of-way route would closely parallel the eastern edge of RBC 83 and extend no more than about 40 meters from the road edge. This alternative route provides greater defensible space by keeping the line east of county road 83 and utilizes the already developed and continuous clearing provided by county road 83 and the fence line clearing. This would effectively reduce the amount of vegetation needed to be cleared to protect the line from wildfire. In the event of a wildfire the line would be easier to protect because of the heightened ability to safely access and defend the line along a developed road or cleared fenceline with adequate escape routes. Utilizing the county road and fence line provides a 20 foot clearing combined with the requested 25 foot clearing around the poles equates to greater distance of the poles from wildland fuels.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no action authorized that would influence wildland fire management.

Mitigation: Several options may be considered for treatment of slash from this project. A hydro-ax or other mulching type machine could be used to remove the trees. The machines are capable of shredding trees up to 12" in diameter and 15' tall as well as mowing brush like a conventional brush beater. It generally leaves small branches and pieces of wood from pencil size up to bowling ball size. The mulch is evenly scattered across the surface and the tires or tracks distribute the weight of the equipment. Because of the limited understory beneath the PJ stands seeding should be conducted prior to tree mowing to give seed a better chance at establishment, because mowing often leaves mulch too deep for propagules to reach soil before depleting the seed reserve and dieing.

PALEONTOLOGY

Affected Environment: The proposed power line route is located in an area generally mapped as the Uinta Formation (Tweto 1979) which the BLM, WRFO has classified as a Condition I formation, meaning it is known to produce scientifically important fossil resources.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Should it become necessary to excavate into the underlying rock formation to construct access along the Right-of-way (ROW) there is a potential to impact scientifically important fossil resources. During drilling into the underlying rock for power pole placement there is a potential to impact scientifically important fossil resources however, it is extremely difficult to identify those resources or conduct effective evaluations or treatment in auger holes of small diameter i.e. less than 50 or 60 centimeters in diameter.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no new impacts to fossil resources under the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation: 1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing paleontological sites, or for collecting fossils. If fossil materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear to be of noteworthy scientific interest
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not feasible)

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

2. If it should become necessary to excavate into the underlying rock formation to construct a tower location or improve access to a tower location a permitted paleontologist shall be present during all such excavations.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Affected Environment: The proposed powerline is within the Upper and Lower Yellow Creek pastures of the Square S allotment (06027). These pastures are used for winter and spring grazing on a rotational basis for the Mantle Ranch and Boone Vaughn cattle operations as follows:

Allotment Number	Allotment Name-Permittee	Number of Livestock	Kind of livestock	Period of Use	% Federal Acres	Total Acres	AUMs	LUP Objectives
06027	Square S-Vaughn	110	C	05/01-12/15	96	64050	795	03/25-06/15 1 in 3 years
		100	C	12/16-05/15	96		477	
		300	C	10/16-12/15	96		578	
		500	C	05/16-06/10	96		410	
	Square S-	190	C	04/15-06/15	66		256	

	Mantle Ranch	46	C	04/15-07/15	66		92	
		75	C	05/01-07/15	66		124	
		80	C	11/30-04/30	66		264	

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action will result in a short term forage loss of 1 AUM. If the stated mitigation measures are properly applied, there will be a long term improvement in forage production in the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There will be no change from the present situation.

Mitigation: None

RECREATION

Affected Environment: The proposed action occurs within the White River Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). BLM custodially manages the ERMA to provide for unstructured recreation activities such as hunting, dispersed camping, hiking, horseback riding, wildlife viewing and off-highway vehicle use.

The project area most resembles a Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) class of Semi-Primitive Motorized (SPM). SPM physical and social recreation setting is typically characterized by a natural appearing environment with few administrative controls, low interaction between users but evidence of other users may be present. SPM recreation experience is characterized by a high probability of isolation from the sights and sounds of humans that offers an environment that offers challenge and risk.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: If action coincides with hunting seasons (September through November) it will most likely disrupt the experience sought by those recreationists.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: No loss of dispersed recreation potential and no impact to hunting recreationists.

Mitigation: None.

VISUAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment: The proposed action would be located in an area with a VRM III classification. The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action parallels existing linear disturbance (roads) and would not dominate the view of a casual observer. The route most likely to be traveled by a casual observer would be RBC 5 (Piceance Creek Road) and the proposed action would not be visible from this route. Ranchers, energy related activities, and hunters would be the primary visitors to the area that would be able to view the powerline. The level of change to the characteristic landscape would be less than moderate and the objectives of the VRM III classification would be retained.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no impacts.

Mitigation: None

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY: This action is consistent with the scope of impacts addressed in the White River ROD/RMP. The cumulative impacts of these activities are addressed in the White River ROD/RMP for each resource value that would be affected by the proposed action.

REFERENCES CITED:

Conner, Carl E.

2006a Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for the Proposed Bass Enterprises Production Company's 4.6 Mile-long Three-Phase Power Line in Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado.

2006b Addendum, Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for a 1.03 Mile Reroute of the Proposed Bass Enterprises Production Company's 4.6 Mile-long Three-Phase Power Line in Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Tweto, Ogden

1979 Geologic Map of Colorado. United States Geologic Survey, Department of the Interior, Reston, Virginia.

PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED: None

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Air Quality
Tamara Meagley	Natural Resource Specialist	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
Tamara Meagley	Natural Resource Specialist	Threatened and Endangered Plant Species
Michael Selle	Archeologist	Cultural Resources Paleontological Resources

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility
Mark Hafkenschiel	Rangeland Management Specialist	Invasive, Non-Native Species, Vegetation, Rangeland Management
Ed Hollowed	Wildlife Biologist	Migratory Birds
Ed Hollowed	Wildlife Biologist	Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Animal Species
Melissa Kindall	Hazmat Collateral	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Water Quality, Surface and Ground Hydrology and Water Rights
Ed Hollowed	Wildlife Biologist	Wetlands and Riparian Zones
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Wilderness
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Soils
Ed Hollowed	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife Terrestrial and Aquatic
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Access and Transportation
Ken Holsinger	Natural Resource Specialist	Fire Management
Robert Fowler	Forester	Forest Management
Paul Daggett	Mining Engineer	Geology and Minerals
Penny Brown	Realty Specialist	Realty Authorizations
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation
Keith Whitaker	Natural Resource Specialist	Visual Resources
Melissa Kindall	Natural Resource Specialist	Wild Horses

Finding of No Significant Impact/Decision Record (FONSI/DR)

CO-110-2006-064-EA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)/RATIONALE: The environmental assessment and analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed action have been reviewed. The approved mitigation measures (listed below) result in a Finding of No Significant Impact on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary to further analyze the environmental effects of the proposed action.

DECISION/RATIONALE: It is my decision to approve the proposed action with the following mitigation measures.

MITIGATION MEASURES:

1. The holder is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the holder is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the holder as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- the mitigation measures the holder will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
- a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the holder wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the holder will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

2. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you

must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

3. The holder will be required to monitor the project area for a minimum of three years post disturbance and eradicate all noxious and invasive species which occur on site using materials and methods approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.

4. An alternate alignment of the route has been marked out on the ground north of the Dudley Bluff's bladderpod colony. This alternative route would avoid this colony by at least 200 feet. It is recommended that this alternative alignment be used for construction of the power line. In addition it is also recommended that 500-600 feet of temporary plastic warning fence be placed along the edge of the road prior to construction activities where it is marked with yellow and blue survey flagging to prevent equipment and vehicle use within the Dudley Bluffs bladderpod colony. Water or gravel could be placed on the road near this colony to reduce dust generation during construction.

5. The holder shall be required to collect and properly dispose of any solid waste generated by the proposed action.

6. Soil compaction may be mitigated by minimizing the amount of utility vehicle traffic associated with the power line construction and maintenance. To mitigate water being channelized down the ROW, all activity must stop when soils or ROW surfaces become saturated to a depth of three inches. Mud blading will be prohibited in attempts to reduce further soil displacement. In addition, disturbed surfaces should be revegetated as outlined in the vegetation section of this document to minimize erosion.

7. Utility truck traffic should be kept to a minimum to reduce the potential impacts of soil compaction. To further mitigate resource damage, timing of construction operations should be planned to avoid wet periods when soils are saturated (e.g. during spring thaw, after late summer monsoons).

8. All disturbed areas on the entire right of way should be reseeded with Native seed mix #3 to preempt cheatgrass dominance. Promptly revegetate the entire right of way with Native Seed mix #3. Drill seeding is the preferred method of seeding. If seed is broadcast, double the seeding rate and provide for seed coverage by harrowing or dragging after seed application. Table rates are PLS pounds per acre.

Seed Mix #	Species (Variety)	Lbs. PLS per Acre	Ecological Sites
3	Western wheatgrass (Rosanna)	2	Gravelly 10"-14", Pinyon/Juniper Woodland, Stony Foothills, 147 (Mountain Mahogany)
	Bluebunch wheatgrass (Secar)	2	
	Thickspike wheatgrass (Critana)	2	
	Indian ricegrass (Nezpar)	1	
	Fourwing saltbush (Wytana)	1	
	Utah sweetvetch	1	
	<i>Alternates: Needle and thread, globemallow</i>		

9. The holder will provide detailed access plans to the Authorized Officer for approval prior to project initiation, particularly in T1S R98W section 1 and T1S R97W sections 6 and 7. Permanent access routes to pole locations in this area should be minimized and discontinuous. Cleared ROW that spans the existing road segments in the NWNE section 7 and SWSE section 6 (T1S R97W) should be barrier fenced after reclamation to dissuade vehicle use not associated with power line maintenance.

10. Project construction, ROW preparation, or equipment/vehicle access associated with the project would not be allowed within 0.25 mile of an active golden eagle nest from March 1 through August 15 or until nestlings fledge from the site. This condition would be applied to the following subdivisions: T1S R97W section 6: Lots 5 and 6, NE1/4SW1/4.

11. Whenever the power line right-of-way crosses BLM 1145 and RBC 83 do not brush beat all the way up to road, instead leave at least 100 feet of brush between BLM 1145/RBC 83 and right-of-way to discourage motorized travel along right-of-way.

12. Several options may be considered for treatment of slash from this project. A hydro-ax or other mulching type machine could be used to remove the trees. The machines are capable of shredding trees up to 12" in diameter and 15' tall as well as mowing brush like a conventional brush beater. It generally leaves small branches and pieces of wood from pencil size up to bowling ball size. The mulch is evenly scattered across the surface and the tires or tracks distribute the weight of the equipment. Because of the limited understory beneath the PJ stands seeding should be conducted prior to tree mowing to give seed a better chance at establishment, because mowing often leaves mulch too deep for propagules to reach soil before depleting the seed reserve and dieing.

13. The holder is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing paleontological sites, or for collecting fossils. If fossil materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the holder is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

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If the holder wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the holder will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

14. If it should become necessary to excavate into the underlying rock formation to construct a tower location or improve access to a tower location a permitted paleontologist shall be present during all such excavations.

COMPLIANCE/MONITORING: Compliance will be conducted every five years by the realty staff.

NAME OF PREPARER: Penny Brown

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Caroline Hollowed

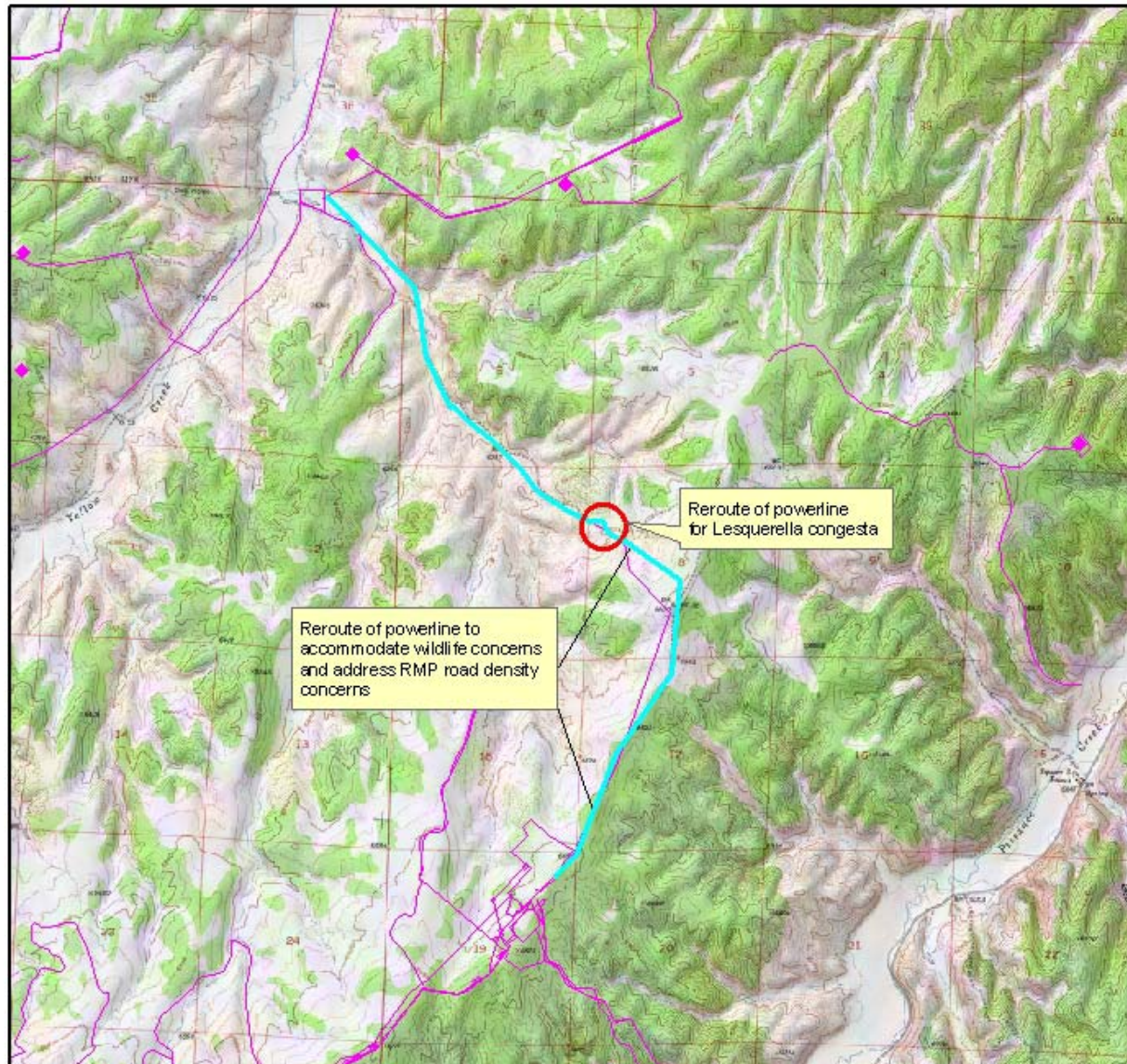
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:


Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 5/31/06

ATTACHMENTS: General location map of the Proposed Action

CO-110-2006-064-EA



- Field office boundary
- Projects: point
- Projects: line
- Projects: polygon

0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles

5/30/2006

